



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/716,586  
Applicants: Gordon K. Dennis  
Filed: November 19, 2003  
Title: PROTECTIVE COVER FOR LOCKING DEVICES  
T.C./A.U.: 3676  
Examiner: Lloyd A. Gall  
Confirmation No.: 6289  
Docket No.: 182531-0004 (Formerly HMC-130US)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Having filed an accompanying Request for Continued Examination (RCE), the applicant submits the following response to the Final Office Action dated July 18, 2006, which finally rejected each of pending claims 1 through 16.

- ☐ **Amendments to the Specification** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper.
- ☒ **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.
- ☐ **Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper and include enclosed replacement sheet(s).
- ☐ **Amendments to the Abstract** are on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper. A clean version of the Abstract is enclosed.
- ☒ **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.